

CLAIMS

We claim:

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1. A method for creating at least one accessible graphical image within a modal dialog box graphical object, comprising:

providing said modal dialog box graphical object; and

providing said at least one accessible graphical image within said modal dialog

10 box graphical object, wherein said providing said at least one accessible graphical image is responsive to at least one image command, said image command including a first attribute determining the processing of at least one predetermined keyboard event, and a second attribute determining the processing mouse click events, wherein said first attribute and said second attribute have parameters indicating a software routine operable
15 to perform a predetermined function associated with said accessible graphical image.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a third attribute having a parameter indicating an ordinal value to be associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said ordinal value represents a relative position within
20 an ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box graphical object, whereby a user is allowed to access said at least one graphical image by using a keyboard action resulting in ones of said graphical images within said modal dialog box being

sequentially accessed responsive to said ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a
5 fourth attribute having a parameter including text associated with said at least one
graphical image, wherein said text is accessible to a screen reader program for conversion
to an audio output signal.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one image command is stored within a
10 document containing formatting information for a user interface, wherein said document
is a Web page, and wherein said image command is a tag of a mark-up programming
language.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one predetermined keyboard event
15 comprises detection of a user pressing the enter key.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one accessible graphical image comprises
a plurality of accessible graphical images, wherein each of said accessible graphical
images is associated with a respective one of a plurality of predetermined functions,
20 wherein each of said plurality of predetermined functions comprises one of a set of tool
bar accessible functions.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said plurality of predetermined functions comprise text formatting operations, and wherein said software routine operable to perform said predetermined function is further operable to perform an associated one of said text forwarding operations.

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8. A computer program product, wherein said computer program product includes a computer readable medium, said computer readable medium having a computer program for creating at least one accessible graphical image within a modal dialog box graphical object stored thereon, said computer program comprising:

10 program code for providing said modal dialog box graphical object; and
 program code for providing said at least one accessible graphical image within said modal dialog box graphical object, wherein said providing said at least one accessible graphical image is responsive to at least one image command, said image command including a first attribute determining the processing of at least one
15 predetermined keyboard event, and a second attribute determining the processing mouse click events, wherein said first attribute and said second attribute have parameters indicating a software routine operable to perform a predetermined function associated with said accessible graphical image.

20 9. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a third attribute having a parameter indicating an ordinal value to be associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said ordinal value represents a relative position within an ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box

graphical object, said computer program operable to allow a user to access said at least one graphical image by using a keyboard action resulting in ones of said graphical images within said modal dialog box being sequentially accessed responsive to said ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box.

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10. The computer program product of claim 9, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a fourth attribute having a parameter including text associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said text is accessible to a screen reader program for conversion to an audio output signal.

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11. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein said at least one image command is stored within a document containing formatting information for a user interface, wherein said document is a Web page, and wherein said image command is a tag of a mark-up programming language.

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12. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein said at least one predetermined keyboard event comprises detection of a user pressing the enter key.

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13. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein said at least one accessible graphical image comprises a plurality of accessible graphical images, wherein each of said accessible graphical images is associated with a respective one of a plurality of predetermined functions, wherein each of said plurality of predetermined functions comprises one of a set of tool bar accessible functions.

14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said plurality of predetermined functions comprise text formatting operations, and wherein said software routine operable to perform said predetermined function is further operable to perform an associated one of said text forwarding operations.

15. A system for creating at least one accessible graphical image within a modal dialog box graphical object, comprising:

means for providing said modal dialog box graphical object; and

means for providing said at least one accessible graphical image within said modal dialog box graphical object, wherein said providing said at least one accessible graphical image is responsive to at least one image command, said image command including a first attribute determining the processing of at least one predetermined keyboard event, and a second attribute determining the processing mouse click events, wherein said first attribute and said second attribute have parameters indicating a software routine operable to perform a predetermined function associated with said accessible graphical image.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a third attribute having a parameter indicating an ordinal value to be associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said ordinal value represents a relative position within an ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box graphical object, whereby a user is allowed to access said at least one graphical image by using a keyboard

action resulting in ones of said graphical images within said modal dialog box being sequentially accessed responsive to said ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box.

5 17. The system of claim 16, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a fourth attribute having a parameter including text associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said text is accessible to a screen reader program for conversion to an audio output signal.

10 18. The system of claim 15, wherein at least one image command is stored within a document containing formatting information for a user interface, wherein said document is a Web page, and wherein said image command is a tag of a mark-up programming language.

15 19. The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one predetermined keyboard event comprises detection of a user pressing the enter key.

20 20. The system of claim 15, wherein said at least one accessible graphical image comprises a plurality of accessible graphical images, wherein each of said accessible graphical images is associated with a respective one of a plurality of predetermined functions, wherein each of said plurality of predetermined functions comprises one of a set of tool bar accessible functions.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein said plurality of predetermined functions comprise text formatting operations, and wherein said software routine operable to perform said predetermined function is further operable to perform an associated one of said text forwarding operations.

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22. A system for creating at least one accessible graphical image within a modal dialog box graphical object, comprising:

program code, stored in a computer readable memory of a computer having at least one processor having access to said memory, for providing said modal dialog box graphical object; and

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program code, stored in said memory, for providing said at least one accessible graphical image within said modal dialog box graphical object, wherein said providing said at least one accessible graphical image is responsive to at least one image command, said image command including a first attribute determining the processing of at least one predetermined keyboard event, and a second attribute determining the processing mouse click events, wherein said first attribute and said second attribute have parameters indicating a software routine operable to perform a predetermined function associated with said accessible graphical image.

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23. The system of claim 22, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a third attribute having a parameter indicating an ordinal value to be associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said ordinal value represents a relative position within an ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box graphical object,

whereby a user is allowed to access said at least one graphical image by using a keyboard action resulting in ones of said graphical images within said modal dialog box being sequentially accessed responsive to said ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box.

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24. The system of claim 23, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a fourth attribute having a parameter including text associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said text is accessible to a screen reader program for conversion to an audio output signal.

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25. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, said computer data signal including at least one computer program for creating at least one accessible graphical image within a modal dialog box graphical object, said at least one computer program comprising:

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program code for providing said modal dialog box graphical object; and
program code for providing said at least one accessible graphical image within

said modal dialog box graphical object, wherein said providing said at least one accessible graphical image is responsive to at least one image command, said image command including a first attribute determining the processing of at least one

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predetermined keyboard event, and a second attribute determining the processing mouse click events, wherein said first attribute and said second attribute have parameters indicating a software routine operable to perform a predetermined function associated with said accessible graphical image.

26. The computer data signal of claim 25, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a third attribute having a parameter indicating a ordinal value to be associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said ordinal value represents a relative position within an ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box graphical object, wherein said computer program is operable to allow a user to access said at least one graphical image by using a keyboard action resulting in ones of said graphical images within said modal dialog box being sequentially accessed responsive to said ordering of graphical images within said modal dialog box.

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27. The computer data signal of claim 26, wherein said at least one image command further comprises a fourth attribute having a parameter including text associated with said at least one graphical image, wherein said text is accessible to a screen reader program for conversion to an audio output signal.